

# Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Project Profile VERMONT

**Updated: February 15, 2001**

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Program

<b>Focus Areas Funded</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surveillance and Epidemiology – Core Activities (Funding Began in Year 2)</li> <li>• Health Alert Network</li> </ul>
<b>Vermont has strengthened its capacity to respond to threats of bioterrorism by:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connecting all 12 District Offices to the Internet,</li> <li>• Completing the Health Alert Network Information Technology Capacity Inventory surveys for all 12 District Health Officers,</li> <li>• Hiring a full-time distance learning coordinator,</li> <li>• Drafting the Vermont Department of Health Emergency Response Plan, and</li> <li>• Establishing an electronic (email-based) system for broadcasting Health Alerts to District Offices,</li> </ul>
<b>Project Year 2 Plans (August 31, 2000-August 30, 2001) include:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designate a coordinator for surveillance/epidemiology activities,</li> <li>• Designate staff to enhance field epidemiologic investigations,</li> <li>• Ensure legal authority for surveillance of biological/chemical events,</li> <li>• Develop a public health surveillance and epidemiologic response plan,</li> <li>• Develop capacity for rapid emergency communications,</li> <li>• Enhance collaboration between public health and partners on infectious disease surveillance and epidemiology associated with bioterrorism,</li> <li>• Train state and local health staff in issues related to possible terrorism events, including surveillance and investigations,</li> <li>• Integrate bioterrorism surveillance with existing infrastructure,</li> <li>• Further develop information technology and make information resources available on-line to protect communities against public health threats,</li> <li>• Establish a comprehensive distance-learning infrastructure available to district staff and their partners,</li> <li>• Develop state and local systems for rapid receipt and broadcast of urgent health alerts, surveillance data, and other information needed for private and public responders to a bioterrorism incident, and</li> <li>• Assure that public health agencies have the organizational capacity to apply current public health knowledge and skills to protect and promote the health of the community.</li> </ul>

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<b>EMERGENCY CONTACTS</b>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td><u>Federal Emergency Management Agency:</u></td> <td>(617) 223-9540</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>State Emergency Management Agency:</u></td> <td>(802) 244-8721</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Federal Bureau of Investigation:</u></td> <td>(518) 465-7551</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>State Public Health Agency:</u></td> <td>(802) 863-7280</td> </tr> </table>	<u>Federal Emergency Management Agency:</u>	(617) 223-9540	<u>State Emergency Management Agency:</u>	(802) 244-8721	<u>Federal Bureau of Investigation:</u>	(518) 465-7551	<u>State Public Health Agency:</u>	(802) 863-7280
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<b>Anecdotes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>								

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